



AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOINT INVESTIGATION CLEARS 2000 HOMICIDE

A joint investigation conducted by a Cold Case Task Force consisting of Aurora Police, the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the Kane County Sheriff's Office and State's Attorney, has resulted in a 28-year-old Aurora man being charged with a homicide that occurred in the Spring of 2000.

Jose R. Salinas of the 900 Block of South Kendall Street, is charged with two counts of first degree murder in connection with the shooting death of Luis R. Donatlan on May 8, 2000.

"This is the first of numerous homicides in which we are confident that we will be filing charges," said Aurora's Chief of Police William Powell. "It is a further illustration of the benefits of our close relationship with our federal law enforcement and Kane County partners."

Donatlan was gunned down at about 2:00 PM, as he rode in a vehicle in the area of Woodlawn Avenue and Gale Street on the city's near west side. Salinas is the accused trigger man in the murder and allegedly fired numerous shots from a vehicle in which he was a passenger. Donatlan, who was 22 years old at the time he was killed, was riding with a 25-year-old Aurora man who was not injured. Donatlan was driven to an Aurora hospital by the man with whom he was riding and was pronounced dead about six hours after the shooting. He had been shot in the lower back. Charging documents indicate that Salinas and Donatlan were opposing gang members.

Law enforcement authorities say the investigation is still considered open. They add that the charges against Salinas resulted from "recent information" that came to the attention of investigators.

Salinas was taken into custody this morning at his job in Montgomery. He is expected to appear for bond call at the Aurora Branch Court inside the police department tomorrow morning.

The Cold Case Task Force was established in 2004 by the FBI and Aurora Police to develop evidence in an attempt to solve several unsolved homicides in and around Aurora, some of which date back to 1990.

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